

166 Franklin Ave

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October 24, 2000

US FDA

Dockets & Management Branch

5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20785

RE: Docket number 98P-0151/cpi

I am writing to urge you -as strongly as possible- to prohibit the slaughter of "downed" animals. Though I am not a vegetarian or left wing radical, I do not believe it is morally right to inflict cruelty on any living being. Not only is it morally wrong -it should be legally wrong as well.

The true measure of a civilized society is how they treat their innocents -children and animals.

It is impossible to move downed animals humanely. They are pushed with tractors or dragged with chains. This would be terrifying and painful even for healthy animals. For animals already injured severely -it causes unimaginable horror and agony.

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If these poor animals were to be humanely euthanized, it would not cause any economic hardship. Even better,

if livestock were better cared for and handled, there would not be "downers" to begin with. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive to prevent injuries in the first place.

As I am learning about the way food animals are treated, I am considering - seriously - becoming vegan or vegetarian. I am embarrassed to be part of the human race, which causes such agony on its fellow creatures.

Please end this horrible practice. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Karen Hugue



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